

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw these rejections.

The claims are directed to a security management method and system for supporting security management of managing systems constituting an information system. According to the present invention, a plurality of security control names and names for obtaining the status/changing configuration of the security control means, information security policy management and inspection supporting device are provided so as to aid in the simplified control and management of security conditions of an information system while conforming to security policy. According to the present invention, the security management method and system inspects whether the managed system is constructed and operated in conformity to the policy established in the design phase of such information system and is able to make changes in configurations of the managed systems when there is a problem by feeding back such information identifying such problems to the security management method and system.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Wiegel, Grimm or Cert whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

Numerous arguments were presented in the Remarks of the Amendment filed on April 18, 2005, said Remarks being incorporated herein by reference. It was particularly shown in said Remarks that Wiegel, Grimm and Cert whether taken individually or in combination with each other fail to teach or suggest the features of the present invention. However, the

Examiner apparently does not agree with these arguments and incorrectly states that "Applicants argument fail to comply with 37 CFR §1.111(b) because they amount to a general allegation that the claims define a patentable invention with specifically pointing out how the language of the limitations of the claims patentably distinguishing them from the references of record". This allegation is entirely incorrect being that Applicants specifically identified features of the present invention not taught or suggested by the references of record. The Examiner's attention is directed to pages 15 and 16 of the Remarks of the April 18, 2005 Amendment in which specific passages of the claims were identified and it was shown how these specific passages are not taught or suggested by the references of record. These passage of the Remarks fully comply with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.111(b) in that they show how the language of the claims define a patentable invention relative to the references of record.

To further comply with said requirements of 37 CFR §1.111(b) the following is provided.

Wiegel teaches a graphical network security policy management method and system which supports the establishment of a security policy in the form of a decision tree that is constructed by assembling graphical symbols representing policy actions and policy conditions. As taught by Wiegel, a user modifies properties of the graphical symbols to create a logical representation of the policy while the logical representation is transformed into a textual script that represents the policy and the script is displayed as the user works with the logical representation. The script is then translated into machine instructions that govern the operation of a network gateway or

firewall. However, at no point is there any teaching or suggestion in Wiegel of providing security control means and means for obtaining status of security of different managed systems and to change configuration of the managed systems for controlling a security both during the design phase and during the operation phase as in the present invention. The system taught by Wiegel could support the establishment of security policies. However, the system taught by Wiegel is not intended to inspect whether the system operates in conformity to the security policy established during the design as in the present invention such as, for example, during operation of the system as in the present invention.

Thus, Wiegel fails to teach or suggest a security specification hatching step of executing an information security policy which corresponds to each managed system constituting an information system designated by a user from a database describing a correspondence between information security policies representing policies of security measures with at least one managed system and the managed systems, to hatch security specification to be applied to the information system as recited in the claims.

Further, Wiegel fails to teach or suggest a security diagnosis step of executing a plurality of audit programs describing a processing for auditing various information including a type of the managed and a software version, which are stored so as to correspond to each set of the information security policy and the managed system which are specified by the hatched security specifications as well as by a security status to audit the various information including the type of the software version of the managed system constituting

the information system designated by the user and diagnose a security of the information system as recited in the claims.

Still further, Wiegel fails to teach or suggest a security handling and management step of executing a management program designated by the user from a plurality of management programs describing a process for controlling the security status concerning the security policy of the managed system stored so as to correspond to each set of the information security policy and the managed system which are specified by the hatched security specifications to allow the electronic computer to change the security status of the managed system corresponding to the management program so as to adjust the security status to the information security policy corresponding to the management program as recited in the claims.

The above noted deficiencies of Wiegel are also evident in Grimm. Therefore, combining the teachings of Wiegel and Grimm in the manner suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims.

Grimm teaches a process for transparently enforcing protection domains and access control as well auditing operations and software components. Grimm specifically teaches an introspection service for analyzing software component and an interposition service for correcting the software components as its constituents elements. Grimm the same as Wiegel fails to teach or suggest the above described features of the present invention regarding the providing of security control means and means for obtaining the status and changing the configuration of the security control means in the appropriate manner relative to the security specifications. Thus,

at no point is there any teaching or suggestion in Grimm of the above described features of the present invention regarding the security specification hatching step, the security diagnosing step and the security handling and management step as recited in the claims.

Thus, as is quite clear from the above both Wiegel and Grimm fail to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Therefore, combining the teachings of Wiegel and Grimm in the manner suggested by the Examiner still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §103(a) rejection of claims 8-11 and 13 as being unpatentable over Wiegel in view of Grimm is respectfully requested.

The above noted deficiencies of Wiegel and Grimm are also not supplied by Cert. Cert is merely relied upon by the Examiner for an alleged teaching of security information published by a security information organization including Cert. Thus, at no point is there any teaching or suggestion in Cert of the above described features of the present invention regarding the security specification hatching step, the security diagnosis step and the security handling and management step as recited in the claims.

Thus, Cert suffers from the same deficiencies relative to the features of the present invention as recited in the claims as Wiegel and Grimm. Therefore, combining the teachings of Wiegel, Grimm and Cert in the manner suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §103(a) rejection

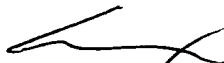
of claim 12 as being unpatentable over Wiegel, Grimm and Cert is respectfully requested.

The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references utilized in the rejection of claims 8-13.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 8-13 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 8-13 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (566.39530VX1).

Respectfully submitted,



CIB/jdc
Attachments
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